

# Despite construction confusion, Stores keeps business as usual

By FRANCINE ALLEN

Staff Writer

Renovation of the Student Stores continues despite a few frustrations and misplaced offices, Rutledge Tufts, Student Stores general manager, said Wednesday.

The construction has relocated offices, which has been hard on employees, Tufts said.

"One lady went out of town and came back and found her office moved," he said. "Some offices have moved (because of construction), and we don't know where they are."

Even though construction has compressed the store's sales space from a 10,000 square foot area into a 4,000 square foot area, students said they find little inconvenience.

"I've had to go through a bunch of mess to find things," said John Cooper, a senior from Denver, N.C. "But I've been able to find what I

need."

Kelley Hughes, a senior from High Point, said the construction's appearance bothered her. "It's not inconvenient, just ugly," she said.

"It's hard to get around," said Faye Tardy, sophomore from Lynchburg, Va. "Everyone asks where the textbooks are."

Tufts agreed. "Some people have wondered if the textbook area is even open because it was hard to get to," he said.

The textbooks stock is the only

area where sales may have been affected by construction, Tufts said.

"Our sales are \$100,000 or so behind last year's," he said. Tufts said another reason for the drop in sales might be the opening of Pop's Tar Heel Textbooks, located on the corner of Franklin and Malette streets.

However, the low sales figure is insignificant because textbook sales fluctuate, Tufts said. Construction did not inconvenience most textbook customers this semester because it

began in late September, after the fall book rush.

To make construction less inconvenient, Tufts said, signs have been put up to direct people to different areas. "When we close the center of the store, we are going to try better ways to re-route people," he said.

One option being considered is painting different colored strips on the floor. "Like Walt Disney World, you follow the yellow brick road to get to the textbooks," Tufts said.

The center of the store will prob-

ably be closed within the next four weeks, he said. To provide easier access to areas in the store during that time, an employee will stand at the store's entrance to give directions.

The store is being renovated in four phases. Construction is now in its third phase, which costs \$689,000, but all phases will be completed by August 1989, said Edward Willis, construction administration director.

Officials had planned to complete construction before spring semester, but a new schedule created to accom-

modate the fall book rush and to finish asbestos removal pushed back the projected completion date, Willis said.

Because the store will be renovated in four phases, some areas, including textbooks, will be completed by June.

Willis said despite the new schedule, construction will still be completed in the same amount of time as previously scheduled. No additional costs will occur in the renovation, which will cost \$1.2 million overall.

## Workshop on race discussions

By JENNIFER WING

Staff Writer

Students for the Advancement of Race Relations (SARR), a Campus Y committee, will hold a training session tonight for committee members on how to conduct a race relations discussion.

The workshop will be held from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in room 208, the Student Union.

Clifford Charles, counselor and coordinator of minority programs at the student development center, will lead the workshop, which will not only discuss how to conduct a good seminar, but also examine how individuals are doing on a personal level.

Once the SARR committee members complete the training, the students will conduct workshops in the Union and will hold discussions with fraternities, sororities, resident assistants, residence halls and other groups.

Lee Latimer, co-chairwoman of SARR, said the workshop is the most essential part of SARR's program. The program will begin with personal feelings and end with a planned prescription on how to conduct these workshops, she said.

"It is necessary that they (committee members) be equipped with a good working knowledge and self knowledge, about attitudes and beliefs and prejudices," Charles said. "You need to examine yourself before interacting with the community."

The objective of the workshop is to teach the students how they as peers can help fellow students enhance interracial relationships, Charles said.

"Students see themselves as insignificant when dealing with these issues," he said. "When reduced in equality, everybody suffers. It is an unnecessary impediment in one's growth and development."

"What is important is that the students want to intervene with prejudice. But, this workshop is a part of a larger whole," he said.

If racial incidents do not occur, people think prejudice does not exist, which is wrong, Charles said. "This issue depends on the amount of awareness," he said.

SARR has sent letters to RAs about possibly holding discussions in the residence halls, Latimer said. In addition, the Big Buddy program and the Campus Y have requested discussions, she said.

Other organizations, such as the Prejudice Reduction Group, have held similar programs, Latimer said. It has been such a rewarding experience in the past by bridging communication gaps that SARR feels it is an essential program for this university, she said.

The program will last approximately two and a half hours and will include a videotape called Racism 101, a documentary about racism on college campuses. A discussion will follow, Charles said.

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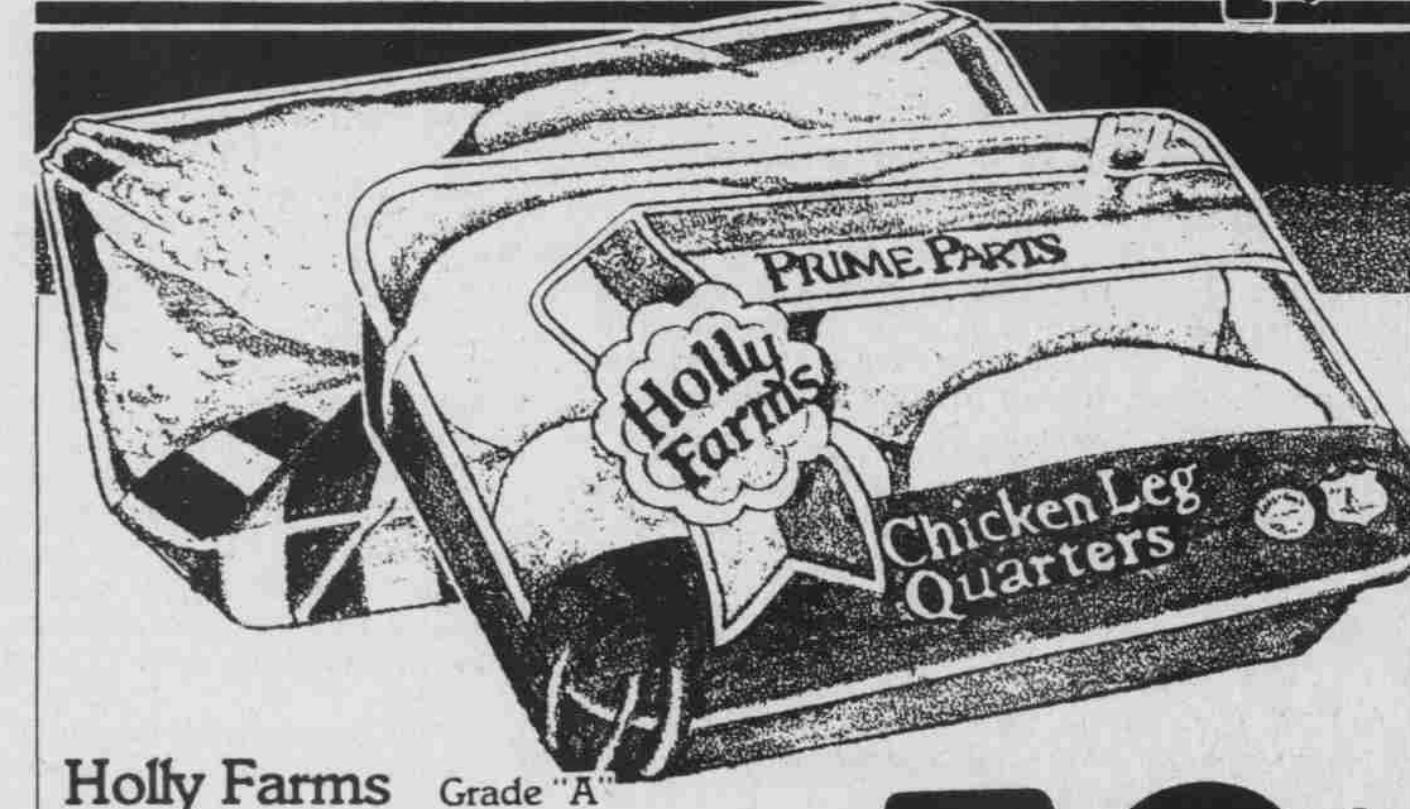
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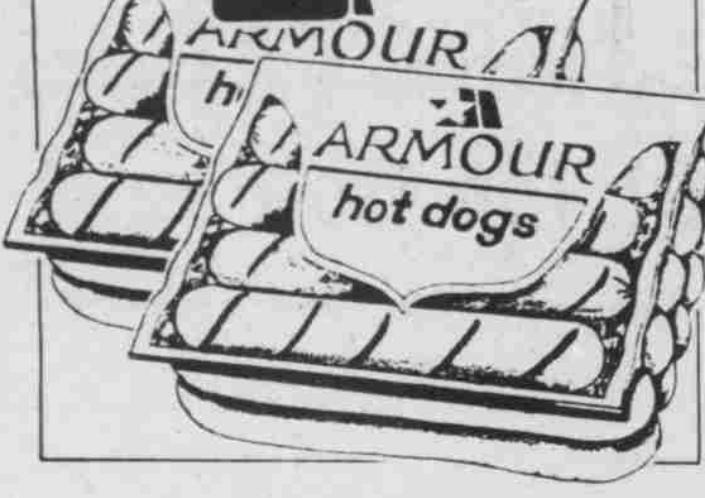
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